

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 256. An act to enhance the ability to combat methamphetamine.

FUNDING WARS AND MOVING JOBS OVERSEAS

(Mr. KUCINICH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KUCINICH. It is good our administration is reaching out to the Muslim world. It is bad to spend another \$100 billion to keep wars going which will kill innocent Muslims in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan.

It is good we try to create an incentive for people to buy efficient cars. It is bad that vouchers will not be expressly for the purpose of purchase of cars made in America. It is even worse that we tie such an incentive to a war-funding bill: cash for clunkers and bunkers in the same bill; cash for more war in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Pakistan; cash to help China sell its cars to Americans.

Meanwhile, back in the U.S. of A., factories and auto dealers are closing. People are losing their businesses, their jobs, their homes, their health care, their investments, their retirement security.

Who are these people who keep coming up with these innovative ideas to keep wars going and to move jobs out of America? Who are these people?

PROVIDING AFFORDABLE, ACCESSIBLE, QUALITY HEALTH CARE

(Mr. BLUNT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, Republicans are eager for this discussion, this debate on health care to move forward. We are eager to talk about health care in committee, on the floor, in hearings, at news conferences, wherever people want to talk about a health care system that ensures more quality, widespread coverage, and accessibility.

In fact, we have a plan that will be based on five principles, and today I want to talk about one of those principles, which is just simply to make quality health care coverage affordable and accessible for every American, regardless of preexisting health conditions. That is a statement that almost every Member of this House I believe would agree with, and our debate is just simply how we get there.

We need to be committed to get there. We need to ensure that everybody has not just access to health care because of certain Federal regulations. Everyone can get into a health care environment if there is a crisis, but we want to be sure they have coverage that gets them into health care through their entire life and through all the needs of their health care.

Affordable, accessible, quality health care is something we are eager to debate. We have the plans that will get there, and we hope that a competitive marketplace allows more choices.

SUPPORT THE SAFER GRANT PROGRAM

(Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK of Arizona. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of a bill I have introduced to help our brave firefighters continue to protect us in these tough times. The SAFER Grant Program helps our fire departments hire the staff they need by funding some of the salaries of new firefighters.

In a district like mine, where we are fighting five wildfires as we speak, this program is crucial to ensuring our firefighters are well-staffed. With tight budgets, the cost-sharing requirement in SAFER has become too tough for our fire departments to meet. Congress waived that requirement in the Recovery Act, but did not include grants from fiscal year 2008, which are still being distributed.

My bill would extend the cost-sharing waiver to fiscal year 2008, allowing our fire departments the flexibility they need to keep us safe, especially during our fire season.

DEMOCRAT PAYGO: YOU PAY, THEY GO ON SPENDING

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, later today President Barack Obama will push Democrat lawmakers to follow pay-as-you-go budget rules. PAYGO rules, as they are known, in theory would require new Federal spending or tax cuts be offset by spending cuts or even tax increases elsewhere. Now, this may sound reasonable to some Americans, but the devil is always in the details, and the American people have reason to be skeptical about newfound calls for fiscal responsibility from this majority.

Under Democrat control, the Federal budget deficit is projected to approach nearly \$2 trillion. In the last several years, non-defense spending has increased by 85 percent. The President and the Democrat's budget just passed will double the national debt in 5 years and triple it in 10. And now calls for new budget rules?

With Democrat plans for more borrowing, more spending, more bailouts, and more debt, the Democrat definition of PAYGO is all too clear to the American people: you pay, and they go on spending.

BRINGING ABDUCTED AMERICAN CHILDREN HOME

(Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California asked and was given permission

to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I recently learned of a situation concerning a constituent of mine, Randy Collins, whose ex-wife abducted their son and went to Japan. The last time Randy Collins saw his son, Keisuke Christian Collins, was on June 15, 2008.

According to the United States State Department's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Overseas Citizens Services, the United States has received notices of 73 cases of parental abductions involving 104 children just for the country of Japan.

Unfortunately, many people are not aware of the severity of this situation and how it affects so many American lives. Once taken to Japan, American parents are unable to see their children because parental visitation rights are not recognized, they are not protected by Japan, and abduction by one parent is not considered a crime.

As an ally of the United States, I urge the Government of Japan to sign the 1980 Hague Convention on Civil Aspects of International Child Abduction and respect the rights of our American parents.

YES, MR. PRESIDENT, WE ARE OUT OF MONEY

(Mr. FLEMING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, in a recent interview with C-SPAN, the President made the very telling statement, "We are out of money."

Yes, Mr. President, as of April 27, this country ran out of money. And yet that has not stopped the liberals in this Congress from passing record-setting spending bills. These bills were sold to the American public as necessary to stimulate the economy.

Unemployment insurance claims reached a record high for the 17th consecutive week and unemployment has reached 9.4 percent, which he promised would not happen upon signing this infamous stimulus bill. The \$1 trillion spending that was supposed to stem the economic recession was nothing more than the fulfillment of a very liberal political agenda.

Reckless spending, a total disregard for fiscal accountability, and rocketing us into another inflation-debt spiral is not the solution. Now, even Socialist and Communist countries across the world are rebuking us for excessive spending and government takeover of the economy.

Bigger government is never the answer to America's biggest challenges. American individualism, innovation, and ingenuity will, even after 200 years, remain the only way to economic prosperity.

THE ROAD TO RECOVERY

(Mr. CARNAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House